Central Schools in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which these are likely to be established; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to establish New Kendriya Vidyalayas in Maharashtra during 1997-98. Kendriya Vidyalayas are opened at places wherever there is concentration of transferable Central Government employees/Defence employees and the sponsoring Departments/agencies provide physical facilities including land, temporary accommodation, as per the norms prescribed by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.

[English]

Release of Grant

761. SHRI CHANDRABHUSHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government had demanded money for the establishment of primary, upper primary schools as well as expansion of upper primary schools in the State under the Operation Black Board Scheme;

(b) if so, the total amount released for the purpose as on October 31, 1997; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) A proposal for opening of primary and upper primary schools in Low Female Literacy Blocks of the State has been received. As it is a new scheme, it is not being considered for implementation in the current year as per instructions of the Finance Ministry. Another proposal for teaching learning equipment in 1770 Upper Primary Schools has been received and for further processing of the proposal, the State Government has been repeatedly requested to convene meeting of State Level Empowered Committee (SLEC).

For reasons mentioned above, no money has been released to Government of Uttar Pradesh during the current financial year so far.

[Translation]

Amendment to Indian Forest Act, 1927

762. SHRI RAMENDRA KUMAR:

SHRI MADAN PATIL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to make amendments in the Indian Forest Act, 1927:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has undertaken a detailed exercise to amend the Indian Forest Act, 1927 to provide for restoration, conservation and management of forests and also to consolidate the various State amendments for providing a uniform law thereby.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Gambling in Cricket

763. SHRI VIJAY PATEL:

SHRI AJOY MUKHOPADHYAY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to probe into the alleged gambling in Cricket in collusion with players through CBI;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, the likely frame of investigation;

(d) the total foreign exchange earnings by the Indian Cricket team during the last three years; and

(e) the amount of outflow of foreign exchange for playing Cricket against foreign teams in our country during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI R. DHANUSHKODI ATHITHAN): (a) to (e) The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Construction Work of NH in Maharashtra

764. SHRI HANSRAJ AHIR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has demanded to include construction work of National Highway from Gandhchirauli (Maharashtra) to Nizamabad-Macherial-Sironela Bhopal Palpattnam Bijapur-Jagdalpur via Andhra Pradesh and the construction of bridge on Pranhita river in the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, whether this proposal would be included in the annual budget of 1998-99; and

(c) whether the Government have been seriously